

## STATE of MINNESOTA

## Proclamation

WHEREAS:

School gardens provide a real-life opportunity for educators to teach students

about planning, planting, nurturing, and harvesting; and

WHEREAS:

School gardens provide students a sense of place and responsibility, and provide

a launching pad for learning more about agriculture and natural systems; and

WHEREAS:

Over 150 Minnesota's school gardens have been developed in recent years to

provide youth with a hands-on outdoor learning experience, teaching

environmental stewardship while increasing students' interest in eating fresh

fruits and vegetables; and

WHEREAS:

The Minnesota Schoolyard Gardens Coalition has been formed to sustain and

grow the school garden movement, effectively bringing together garden

stakeholders from K-12 and higher education, communities, state agencies, non-

profit organizations and master gardeners; and

WHEREAS:

School Garden Awareness Day in Minnesota is an opportunity to celebrate the

coming growing season by encouraging schools statewide to start, maintain or expand a school garden to benefit Minnesota's students and communities; and

WHEREAS:

The Third Annual Schoolyard Gardens Conference with the theme "Everyone in

the Garden" will be held Friday and Saturday, February 27-28, 2015, at the

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Friday, February 27, 2015, as:

## SCHOOL GARDEN AWARENESS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 19<sup>th</sup> of February.

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE